



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310) 659-0205
Dick Rosengarten, Publisher

VOL. XV
No. 41

NOV. 8, 1993

ELECTION ANALYSIS

Editor's note: Here is CALPEEK's analysis of the just concluded Nov. 2nd Calif. statewide special election. We'll start with a brief overview. We'll also present your favorite column --- "**Winners & Losers.**"...

● **Overview** - The last time Calif. had a special election in 1979, the voter turnout was 37.4%. In the 1993 special, the turnout is estimated to be slightly higher at 38-39%. As CALPEEK noted last week, money was *very tight* in all but the NO on 174 contest. As a result, many sources think, some ballot measures which would have normally passed in a regular election, went down to defeat in a big way. This was especially true with Prop. 168 (low-income housing without a local vote) and Prop. 173 (bond financing for first time homebuyers)...

...Outside the big Southern Calif. media market, coverage of the special was fair-to-good. But with the new round of wildfires in L.A. and in the Inland Empire, all hope of getting any last minute TV coverage vanished. TV in L.A. ignored the election...

● **The Big Winner** - CALPEEK gives this award to the Orange Co. firm of Butcher, Forde & Mollrich, because with limited resources, they successfully guided wins for YES on 172, the 1/2 cent sales tax extension for public safety; and a bigger victory for NO on 170, the proposal to allow a simple majority vote to approve school bond financing ballot measures...

● **The Big Money Award** - This award goes to the NO on 174 campaign and their consultants, The Nelson Communications Group (Bob Nelson, Rick Manter & Donna Lucas). They ran a good campaign, but with the multi-million dollar budget they had, your Aunt Tilly could have wiped out the voucher initiative...

● **The Mixed Bag Award** - This goes to Calif.'s educational establishment. They won big by defeating 174, but had a major setback with the loss of 170. Too bad CTA couldn't have been a little more generous toward 170 --- because if they had, it might have been a more interesting race with perhaps a different ending...

● **No Guts, No Glory Award** - Gov. Pete Wilson doesn't seem to have very good political sense, but he's not afraid to take a chance. And he did stick his political neck out to support 172 and oppose 174 --- and he got lucky. Wilson's positions were the **opposite** of the CA Republican Party on these measures. There are some who argue that Wilson didn't have to go through all this aggravation had he only agreed to back a legislative plan to extend the 1/2 cent sales tax. But if he had done that, he might not have had a real good excuse for calling a special election. And anyone with a lick of political common sense knows that the special was called to get school vouchers out of the way before the June 1994 GOP primary. Bottomline: Wilson's overall game plan worked, but conservatives are still mad as hell and CTA will still work overtime to defeat him next year...

● **Prop. 174** - As predicted by just about everyone, the school voucher initiative was defeated by a 69.7% to 30.3% margin. The county to give 174 its best result was Orange, where YES on 174 got 38.7%. Warning: the educational establishment had better not let this win go to its head, otherwise vouchers will be back. They may come back regardless...

● **27th A.D. Special** - As CALPEEK has noted for some time, Demo Santa Cruz Co. Sup. Gary Patton was in deep trouble --- and election night proved CALPEEK sources to be correct one more time, as GOp

{Continued Next Page}

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK (ISSN 0195-6175) IS AN INDEPENDENT, NONPARTISAN NEWS ANALYSIS BULLETIN OF CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION. TELEPHONE: (310) 659-0205. ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213. \$90.00/YEAR. PUBLISHED WEEKLY, 44 WEEKS PER YEAR. COPYRIGHT BY CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC. THIS TRADEMARK REGISTERED WITH THE CALIF. SEC. OF STATE. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR PART REQUIRES EXPRESS PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 1ST CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Bruce McPherson, the former editor of the Santa Cruz Sentinel, won this special to fill Sam Farr's unexpired term. McPherson got 50.1% to Patton's 44.1%. Patton, who has been a supervisor for some 18 years, just could not shake the image of being anti-business in a 2-county area that is locked in a deep economic recession. Put another way, Patton was not a good candidate for this district *at this time*. GOP consultant Gordon Poole and GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte get the lion's share of credit for pulling this big upset...

- **Egg On Face Award** - The award goes, without any question, to CA Demo Party political director Bob Mulholland, who faxed out a memo to political reporters at 5 p.m. on election day. The memo touts a win in New Jersey by incumbent Gov. Jim Florio(D) over GOP challenger Christine Todd-Whitman. A little premature, Bob...

- **DEpressed Award** - This goes to CDP Chair Bill Press, who must be muttering to himself about Demos losing 3 of 4 Calif. Legislative specials...

- **Prop. 172** - DAs, police, sheriffs' deputies, firefighters and other public safety personnel can rest easier with the 57.7% win. A big victory for Gov. Wilson, who with Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, pumped some late money into the campaign as insurance. Out of 58 counties, YES on 172 won in 39 and did particularly well in Calif.'s major urban centers. NO on 172 won in 19 counties --- almost all of which were in Northern Calif. or the Central Valley. So there is still lots of anti-tax feeling in CA's rural communities. FYI: there was one big loser in the 172 battle --- Atty. Gen. Dan Lungren(R). Yes, Lungren endorsed YES on 172, but sources close to the YES campaign said Lungren's support was almost *non-existent*. And conservatives are mad at Lungren for backing the measure in the first place. Orange Co. Sheriff Brad Gates was a big winner in this battle to pass 172...

- **4th S.D. Special** - No surprises here as Shasta Co. Sup. Maurice Johannessen(R) crushed Demo attorney Montana Podva to capture this once Demo seat for the GOP. Johannessen got 55.5% of the vote compared to just 39.4% for Podva. If the Demos recruit a credible challenger in 1994, this district could be recaptured. This Demo defeat just shows how important candidate recruitment can be...

- **11th S.D. Special** - As CALPEEK and some Demos predicted, former Congressman Tom Campbell of Palo Alto is now GOP State Sen. Tom Campbell, bringing the total Republican numbers in the Legislature's upper house to 16 members. Campbell mashed a field of 7 challengers and got 59.6%. The top vote-getting Demo, Hal Plotkin, got 11%. Pathetic --- and another example of a failure to recruit a solid Demo candidate...

- **Prop. 170** - Again, CALPEEK sources were right on the money in predicting that this measure to end the 2/3rds vote on school bond measures would be defeated. It lost by a margin of 69.2% NO to 30.8% YES. This was a major win for the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. and HJTA president Joel Fox, who noted that 170 was sunk by *more than a 2/3rds vote*. And even though 172 to extend the 1/2 cent sales tax won big, the defeat of 170 signals that the CA tax revolt is *still healthy*...

- **40th S.D. Special** - There will be a Dec. 28th runoff in this San Diego area State Senate district where Demo Assemblyman Steve Peace led a field of 5 other candidates to capture first place with 47.6%. That's slightly more than CALPEEK sources had predicted in last week's newsletter (we said the margin would run from 42% to 47%). Peace will face off with Republican businessman Joe Ghougassian, who got 24.7%. Peace might have won outright, but with two other Demos drawing 13.6% of the vote, it wasn't in the cards. Peace remains the frontrunner in this contest to succeed Wadie Deddeh, but with a runoff 3 days after X-Mas, Demos have lots of work to do to get ready for this battle. Prepare for donuts...

- **S.F. City Elections** - Incumbent City Atty. Louise Renne crushed challenger Neil Eisenberg by a 63.4% to 36.6% margin to hold her job. But the focus in this city was on ballot measures. Measure Z dealing with garbage collection & recycling was defeated by a 75% to 25% margin, while Measure A dealing with a bond to help rebuild cultural facilities got 61%, but needed a 2/3rds vote to win. And that crazy Measure BB to allow SFPD Officer Bob Geary keep his puppet was approved by a 51% to 49% margin. Three(3) charter reform measures passed --- L with 59.4%, M with 52.3% and N with 54.2%. Solem & Assoc. were in

charge of these measures. And Measure V dealing with ways to crack down on welfare fraud won overwhelmingly with 60.9%...

● **San Diego Council Runoffs** - San Diego voters elected their first openly lesbian councilmember when Chris Kehoe easily defeated Evonne Schulze. Also elected to the council was Barbara Warden. Still up in the air as CALPEEK went to press was the race most insiders were watching: the battle between Harry Mathis and ex-mayoral candidate Peter Navarro. Mathis held a very slight 500 vote lead, with some absentee ballots yet to be counted...

...More local results next week. Stay tuned...

FEINSTEIN LEADS GOP OPPONENTS IN TWO POLLS.

Editor's note: U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) continues to lead all of her potential Republican opponents in her battle to retain her U.S. Senate seat. Here is our brief report...

● **Field Poll** - This survey was taken between Oct. 8-15, sample size 708 registered voters. The Field Poll matched DiFi against all 3 GOP opponents who have announced so far --- former Congressman Bill Dannemeyer, U.S. Rep. Michael Huffington and Riverside businesswoman Kate Squires...

Feinstein 54%	Dannemeyer 27%
Feinstein 53%	Huffington 27%
Feinstein 52%	Squires 27%

...Undecided were 19% in the Dannemeyer race; 20% in the Huffington battle; and 21% in the contest with Squires. For a total unknown, Squires probably surprised a few insiders by pulling 27%...

● **L.A. Times Poll** - This mid-October poll with 1,301 registered voters shows almost the same thing, except that the L.A. Times did **not** release or did not match DiFi with Squires...

Feinstein 49%	Dannemeyer 30%
Feinstein 47%	Huffington 29%

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: 4 MORE BEGIN DRIVES.

Editor's note: The next 4 initiatives, which have been given the okay to begin collecting signatures, were written and submitted by the same group of proponents: William P. Selmeier, Kirk Mackenzie, Patricia Lear, David B. Maginnis and Eileen M. Bradshaw. No phone numbers were provided. Here's a brief report...

● **"Legislative Information. Computer Network,"** is the official title of initiative statute that would require Legislative Counsel to make available to the public, in electronic form, any information relating to legislative action. Proponents have until Mar. 7, 1994 to collect 384,974 signatures...

● **"Campaign Contribution Limits,"** is the official title of an initiative statute which bans State Legislators from receiving contributions from individuals and firms who reside *outside* their district. This is the "Can't Vote/Can't Contribute" plan which CALPEEK wrote about several weeks ago. Proponents have until Mar. 7, 1994 to collect 384,974 signatures...

● **"Initiative Process. Reduction in Signature Requirement,"** is the official title of a constitutional amendment that would reduce the number of required signatures for a statute to 2% of all votes cast in the last gubernatorial election. The current requirement is 5%. On constitutional amendments, the current requirement is 8% --- under this plan that would be cut to 4%. Again, proponents have until Mar. 7. They need 615,958 signatures to qualify...

● **"State Expenditures, Revenue,"** is the official title of a constitutional amendment that would require the governor to issue quarterly financial reports on the condition of the State's economy --- expenditures, revenues. The deadline for qualification is Mar. 7 and proponents need 615,958 valid signatures. Stay tuned...

U.S. SEN. WELLSTONE ON HEALTH CARE REFORM.

U.S. Sen. Paul Wellstone(D-MN), author of S. 491, a universal health care plan similar to the Canadian system, will discuss health care at a meeting of Women For, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Nov. 14, Veteran's Memorial Building, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City. The meeting is open to the public. For info (310)657-7411...

CALPEEK's ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

● **Latino Unity Summit** - For the first time, some 200 Latino elected officials from L.A. County will gather Dec. 4th at East L.A. College for what is being billed as a "unity summit" to discuss key issues impacting the Latino community in L.A. and Calif. Topics will include immigration, health care, education, economic development and crime. The Nat'l Assn. of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) is coordinating this unique gathering. It is hoped that the participants will be able to agree on a unified stand on a number of the topics under discussion. Attending the conference will be Latino congress members, State legislators, school board members and city council members. NALEO has been conducting these "unity summits" throughout the entire Southwest U.S...

● **Gays Say "Sorry" to Woo** - As has been reported here and other publications, former L.A. Councilman and mayoral candidate Michael Woo would like to run for Secretary of State in 1994. Sources tell CALPEEK that Woo recently called a member of his ex-mayoral finance cmt., Scott Hitt, MD, to see about setting up a major funding operation within CA's gay community. Sources say that Hitt told Woo he was sorry, but the gay community Statewide has already made a commitment to back CA Deputy SOS Tony Miller(D). Sources say Woo was shocked to learn of this development. Other sources have told CALPEEK that several former Woo supporters have urged the former councilmember to give politics a rest and stay out of the 1994 election cycle. FYI: in case you didn't know it, Tony Miller is *openly gay*...

● **Calif.'s \$4 Billion Court Date** - To the surprise of most insiders, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear a major case revolving around CA's unitary method of taxing multi-national & national corporations. If the nation's high court should eventually rule against Calif., it could cost taxpayers \$4 billion. Many thought the U.S. Supreme Court would not hear this case because the CA Legislature just passed a bill ending the unitary system as of 1994. Stay tuned...

CALIF. WATER ISSUES AT COMMONWEALTH CLUB.

The Water & Ag sections of The Commonwealth Club of CA will present two discussions on Calif. Water Issues --- one on Nov. 9th dealing with the CA-Federal partnership, 7 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. discussion at the club office; and a second discussion on Legislative Solutions to CA Water Problems on Nov. 30, 7 p.m. reception, 7:30 p.m. discussion at club office. For info (415)597-6705. The Nov. 30th discussion features State Sen. Dan McCorquodale and Assemblyman Dom Cortese, who head the water committees in their respective houses of the CA Legislature...

SEN. HURTT TO ADDRESS LINCOLN CLUB NOV. 19.

State Sen. Rob Hurtt(R-Orange Co.) will address members of the San Gabriel Valley chpt. of the Lincoln Club of Calif., 7:30 a.m., Nov. 19, Industry Hills Sheraton, City of Industry. For info, call Natalie Blanning (818)919-7497...

*Because next Thursday, Nov. 11th, is Veterans Day, and an official holiday for the U.S. Post Office, we will **not** mail CALPEEK until Friday, Nov. 12th. So those of you who normally get CALPEEK on Friday, please don't panic...*

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● President Clinton has named San Diego business executive M. Larry Lawrence as ambassador to Switzerland. Sheilia Lawrence, Larry's wife, also will go to Switzerland as a special U.S. Representative to the World Conservation Union...

● Campaign consultant Larry Tramutola and Rachel Richman, press secretary to Assemblyman Tom Bates, both from the Oakland area, will go to So. Africa after the November elections to help the newly emerging political parties prepare for the upcoming round of elections Apr. 27...